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and a List of the California Specimens of the Genus known to occur in Collections. By Henry Edwards. 8vo, pp. 2. (From the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences, January, 1877.)

A Partial Synopsis of the Fishes of Upper Georgia, with Supplementary Papers on Fishes of Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana. By D. S. Jordan. 8vo, pp. 70. (From the Annals of the New York Lyceum of Natural History, vol. xi.)

Fur-Bearing Animals. By Elliott Cones. 8vo, pp. 348, with 20 plates. U. S. Geological Survey of the Territories, F. V. Hayden, Geologist in Charge, Washington, 1877.

Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum. No. 7. Contributions to the Natural History of the Hawaiian Islands and Fanning Islands and Lower California. By T. H. Streets, M. D., Washington, 1877. 8vo, pp. 166.

Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum. No. 8. Index to the Names which have been applied to the Subdivisions of the Class Brachiopoda. By W. H. Dall. 8vo, pp. 82. Washington, 1877.

Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum. No. 9. Contributions to North American Ichthyology, No. 1. By D. S. Jordan. 8vo, pp. 49. Washington, 1877.

Bulletin of the U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. Vol. iii. No. 4. F. V. Hayden, Geologist in Charge. Washington, 1877. 8vo, pp. 116.

North American Ethnology. Vol. i. By W. H. Dall and G. Gibbs. Large 8vo, pp. 355, with maps and illustrations. U. S. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Rocky Mountain Region. J. W. Powell, Geologist in Charge. Washington, 1877.

Jahres-Bericht des Naturhistorischen Vereins von Wisconsin für das Jahr 1876-1877. Milwaukee, 1877. 8vo, pp. 16,

## GENERAL NOTES.

### BOTANY.<sup>1</sup>

GENTIANA AMARELLA L. VAR. ACUTA (G. ACUTA Mx.). — While botanizing with Mr. Pringle in Smuggler's Notch, August 9th, we found a small alpine form of this gentian growing abundantly on the sides of one of the steep water-courses that descend from Mt. Mansfield. It is an interesting addition to the flora of New England, and is further indication of the richness of the Notch in boreal plants, to which attention was drawn by Mr. Pringle last year. — C. E. FAXON.

NOTES ON SOME INJURIOUS FUNGI, BY PROFESSOR W. G. FARLOW (in Bulletin of the Bussey Institution). — This article is principally devoted to an account of the mold (*Uncinula spiralis* B. and C.) which is common throughout the greater part of the United States. The ripe perithecia have been found from New England to California. The mycelium forms white patches on the leaves and grapes. The conidia which have been known for some time have generally passed for the mold common on European vines (*Oidium Tuckeri*), but it is very doubtful, in spite of their resemblance to one another, whether they are the same thing. The *Uncinula* is more injurious to the grapes than *Peronospora viticola*, as it attacks the berries as well as the leaves. The article contains a few remarks on the vegetable origin of certain

<sup>1</sup> Conducted by PROF. G. L. GOODALE.

common knots found on trees. In this connection it is mentioned that the black knot (*Sphaeria morbosa*) has been found on the beach plum at Martha's Vineyard.

THE NEW BUILDING FOR THE KEW HERBARIUM. — In the August number of the *Journal of Botany* is a part of Sir J. D. Hooker's Report for the Year 1876 of the Herbarium of the Royal Gardens at Kew: "The new building for the accommodation of the herbarium is in a very advanced state. It will consist of a hall attached to the back of the present house. The whole of the latter will be preserved except the drawing-room, a single apartment that was added on to its north side, and which has been removed to make room for the new hall, which is eighty-six feet long by forty feet broad, and contains two galleries ten feet broad running round it. The galleries will communicate with each other and with the ground-floor by two circular iron staircases placed one at each end of the building. On each floor there will be an entrance from the old building closed by double iron fire-proof doors. The long sides of the building will be lighted with forty-eight windows, eight on each floor on each side. The cabinets for holding the specimens will be arranged in blocks eight feet high, of two tiers projecting like buttresses between the windows on the ground-floor and galleries, thus accommodating the greatest number of cabinets with the least loss of space, a very important consideration, considering the extent of the collection and the time that would be otherwise lost in consulting it. At the present time the number of cabinets is upwards of six hundred, and the estimated number of specimens contained in the whole is now considerably over a million, reckoning as one all the individuals of the same plant from the same locality."

BOTANICAL PAPERS IN RECENT PERIODICALS. — *Trimen's Journal of Botany*, July, 1877. J. L. Warren, Notes on Some Sussex Plants. E. M. Holmes, The Cryptogamic Flora of Kent (continued in August number). H. F. Hance, On *Sportella*, a New Genus of Rosaceæ (from China). Various short notes and interesting abstracts. August, H. Polakowsky, Catalogue of Costa Rica Plants. R. A. Pryor, On Bobart's Green *Scrophularia* (now identified as a monstrosity of *S. nodosa*). The same writer communicates also a short note on *Carum bulbocastanum*, a list of interesting plants in North Buckinghamshire, England, and an account of *Buxus sempervirens* in the same district. Among the abstracts we find the Report of the Kew Herbarium for 1876 (elsewhere noticed).

*Annales des Sciences Naturelles, Botanique*, July, 1877. Sorokine, Notes respecting the Vegetable Parasites of *Auguillula*. Also, by the same author, Notes in Regard to *Ascomyces polysporus*. Naudin and Radlkofer, The Influence which Changes of Climate have on Plants. Vesque, On the Absorption of Water by Roots, in its Relations to Transpiration.

*Flora*, No. 19. Professor Julius Klein, Notes on Algæ, continued. No. 21. Arnold, The Mosses of the Jura. Dr. Prantl, On *Hysterium Pinastri* Schr. as a Cause of Leaf Disease in the Pine. No. 22. Dr. A. Minks, The Lichen Question.

*Botanische Zeitung*, No. 30. De Borbás, Concerning some Iridaceæ, especially those of Hungary. Warnstorf, Two New European Musci. Reports of Societies. No. 31. Dr. Harz, On the Origin and Properties of Spergulin (a new fluorescent from the seed-coats of *Spergula vulgaris*).

### ZOOLOGY.<sup>1</sup>

DEVELOPMENT OF UNFERTILIZED EGGS OF VERTEBRATES AND MOLLUSCA.—In the August number of the *NATURALIST* I notice a letter from Mr. E. Lewis Sturtevant on the development of unfertilized eggs in the body of the female pickerel, and as the subject is one of great interest, I subjoin a few extracts from my notes, which relate to similar observations.

Dr. Burnett says (Proc. Amer. Acad. of Arts and Sciences, iii., 1847, page 44), "In the ova of the common cod-fish (*Gadus morrhua*) before they are expelled from the ovaries, and therefore before impregnation, I have seen phenomena indicating that the segmentation of the vitellus had already commenced." Professor Agassiz says (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., vi., 1856, page 9) that eggs in various early stages of development may be found in the ovaries of the cod, whiting, and hake; but he opposes Burnett's view that this is to be regarded as proof of parthenogenesis, and holds that it rather proves copulation and internal impregnation. According to Bischoff (Mém. sur la Maturation et la Chute périodique de l'Œuf de l'Homme et des Mammifères, indépendant de la Fécondation, Ann. d. Sc. Nat., iii., ser. zool. ii., page 135, 1844) a few of the eggs laid by a female frog which had been kept in solitary confinement are found to go through the early stages of development.

In the *Monthly Microscopical Journal* for July, 1876 (page 44), there is a notice of similar observations upon the frog, which were communicated to the Académie des Sciences. According to this observer the first stages of segmentation were found in some of the eggs dropped by a female frog which had been kept in confinement for about four months, and secluded from all possible intercourse with the male. Segmentation was more rapid and irregular than in fertilized eggs at the same temperature. Only a small number of eggs commenced development; the majority died at once, and the rest very soon and before the mulberry stage was reached. The same phenomenon has also been seen by Leuchart.

Oebacher finds that the eggs laid by virgin hens, which have been reared in confinement, undergo segmentation and form a blastoderm

<sup>1</sup> The departments of Ornithology and Mammalogy are conducted by Dr. ELLIOTT COUES, U. S. A.